

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1972.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

We present the Annual Report on the Environmental Health of the Urban District of Llandeilo for the Year 1972.

The general public health circumstances of the area were satisfactory, there being neither outbreaks of infectious disease nor food poisoning incidents reported. This is not to say that no cases of food poisoning occurred because many people do not visit their doctor for mild illnesses.

More education of the public in food hygiene, particularly food handling in the home, is required.

The education of Food Handlers is a continuing process in Shops and restaurants, but more serious attention should be given to this by the various Managers to ensure that his staff, however temporary, are made aware of the dangers of unhygienic practices.

The noise and pollution of heavy traffic passing through the narrow main street increases yearly, and the proposed by-pass will go a considerable way to providing some relief to the long suffering residents of the town centre.

No Council house building has taken place, but improvements to a number of pre-war houses were commenced.

The number of improvement grants showed a slight increase over the previous year.

The proposed reorganisation of Local Government and the Health Services were the main items of concern during 1972.

Numerous meetings were held and much work was involved in preparing and collating information in readiness for April 1974. There will no doubt be quite an upheaval and it could be some time before smooth running of all the various departments will be apparent. In the transitional period however, services must be maintained.

We wish to express our appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the interest taken in the work of the Department, and to Mr. I.J. Thomas, Clerk of the Council and the clerical staff for their help and support.

MARGARET STEANE M.B., Ch.B, D.P.H., M.F.C.M.,

K.C. McCUTCHEON, M.A.P.H.I.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

(General Purposes, Plans and Water).

As from January 1972 to April, 1972.Councillor D. R. Williams (Chairman
of the Council)Councillor D. G. Hughes (Vice Chairman
of the Council)

Councillor T. G. Beynon.

Councillor A. H. T. Boot.

Councillor D. L. Davies.

Councillor Hugh Howells.

Councillor G. W. James.

Councillor Mrs. P. I. Roderick.

Councillor W. E. Whittingham.

As from May, 1972 to December, 1972.Councillor D. G. Hughes (Chairman of
the Council)Councillor Mrs. P. I. Roderick (Vice
Chairman of the Council)

Councillor Mrs. K. Bevan.

Councillor D. L. Davies.

Councillor L. A. German.

Councillor Ieuan Gwyn.

Councillor B. A. Hodge.

Councillor D. T. Jones.

Councillor J. O. E. Thomas, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: MARGARET STEANE, M.B., Ch. B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: K.C. McCUTCHEON, M.A.P.H.I.

CLERICAL ASSISTANT: MISS. C. EDWARDS.

GENERAL INFORMATION1972

Area of District	311 acres
Estimated Mid. Year Population in Llandeilo U.D.	1,800
Estimated Mid. Year Population in England and Wales	49,028,900
Number of Persons per acre	5.78
Number of Private Domestic Premises (Houses, Flats etc.)	516
Number of Business Premises with living accommodation	62
Number of Council owned dwellings	134
(inclusive of 16 purpose-built dwellings for the elderly persons)	
Total Number of Dwellings	712
Number of Buildings completed during 1972	
(a) By the Council	NIL
(b) By Private Builders	NIL
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1972	£ 55,673
Net Product of a penny rate (71/72)	£ 519
Number of Burial Grounds	1
Number of Burial Grounds owned by the Council	Nil

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STATISTICAL INFORMATIONPOPULATION OF LLANDEILO URBAN DISTRICTTABLE OF POPULATION - BIRTHS AND DEATHS 1966 - 1972.

Year	LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA			Population of Carnarthen- shire.	Population of Wales
	Number of Persons	Deaths	Births		
1966	1930	27	30	-	-
1967	1900	29	24	-	-
1968	1900	30	20	-	-
1969	1880	27	16	163,600	2,723,000
1970	1910	26	26	164,300	2,734,000
1971	1800	23	32	163,170	2,725,180
1972	1800	30	20	162,530	2,731,450

BIRTHS.

		LLANDEILO URBAN DISTRICT			Carns. England & Wales.	
		Males	Females	Total		
Live Births	Legitimate	15	5	20	1911	662,907
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	104	62,498
	Total	15	5	20	2015	725,405
Still Births	Legitimate	-	-	-	34	7,846
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	3	948
	Total:	-	-	-	37	8,794
Total Live & still Births	Legitimate	15	5	20	1945	670,753
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	107	63,446
	Total:	15	5	20	2052	734,199

LIVE BIRTH RATES ETC.

	Llandeilo U.D.C.	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Live births per 1,000 home population (crude rate).	11.1	12.40	14.8
Area comparability factor.	1.27	1.16	1.00
Local adjusted rate.	14.1	14.40	14.8
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	0.95	0.97	1.00
Illegitimate live births as a percentage of all live births.	-	5.00	9

STILL BIRTH RATE

	Llandeilo U.D.	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Still births per 1,000 total live and still births.	-	18	12

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE

No deaths from childbirth occurred during 1971.

DEATHS OF INFANTS.

		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	CARMS.	ENGLAND & WALES
Under 1 Year	Legitimate	-	1	1	29	11,177
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	2	1,317
	Total:	-	1	1	31	12,494
Under 4 weeks	Legitimate	-	-	-	24	7,503
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1	870
	Total:	-	-	-	25	8,373
Under 1 week	Legitimate	-	-	-	22	6,365
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1	777
	Total:	-	-	-	23	7,142

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

	Llandeilo	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	50	15	17
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	50	15	17
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	19	21
Neonatal mortality rate. Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births	-	12	12
Early neonatal mortality rate Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	-	11	10
Perinatal mortality rate Still births and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births.	-	29	22

DEATHS.

	Male	Female	Total	Carns.	England & Wales
All ages	16	14	30	2412	591,907

DEATH RATES ETC. ALL AGES.

	Llandeilo	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate).	16.7	14.8	12.1
Area comparability Factor	0.85	0.90	1.00
Local adjusted rate	14.2	13.3	12.1
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.17	1.10	1.00

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1972ALL AGES.

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	-	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
Leukaemia	-	1	1
Other malignant neoplasms	3	1	4
Diabetes Mellitus	1	1	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	6	2	8
Other forms of Heart Disease	1	2	3
Cerebrovascular Disease	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	1	1
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis and Emphysema	-	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
All Other Accidents	-	1	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	16	14	30

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

No cases of infectious diseases were reported during 1972.

IMMUNISATION

The following tables refer to the whole of Carmarthenshire.

Separate figures for the Llandeilo Urban District are not available.

P R I M A R Y							BOOSTERS	TOTAL
	Born 1972	Born 1971	Born 1970	Born 1969	Born 1965- 1968	Others up to 16 Yrs.		
Triple Antigen	*124	742	77	12	26	5	1080	2066
Diptheria/tetanus	-	26	6	19	24	10	533	618
Tetanus	5	1	5	3	26	241	173	454
Polio	*97	767	101	33	81	16	1448	2543
Measles	1	68	149	29	33	7	-	287
Rubella	-	-	-	-	-	289	-	289

* For children born since 1972 appointments under the computer scheme are made at the current recommended schedule of primary procedure i.e. first appointment offered at six months and full primary course not completed until child is in second year of life. Hence the reduced figure for this particular age group.

B.C.G. VACCINATION (WHOLE COUNTRY)

	Contact Scheme	School Children	TOTAL
Number skin tested	108	1027	1135
Number found negative	98	895	993
Number vaccinated	82	887	969

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 SECTION 47

This section enables a person in need of care and attention to be removed to suitable premises.

No action was required during 1972.

SERVICES AVAILABLE AT LLANDEILLO CLINIC

	DAY	TIME
Orthopaedic Clinic (Children)	Alternate Tuesdays	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Child Health Clinic	Alternate Wednesdays	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Mothercraft & Relaxation Class	Thursday	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Speech Therapy	Wednesdays	1.30 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Hearing Assessments	By Appointment	
Dental Clinic (Children & Expectant Mothers)	By Appointment	

WELFARE FOODS

Welfare foods are sold at the Clinic, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, on Wednesdays from 2 - 4 p.m.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

1. Inspection for purpose of provisions as to health.

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	2	0	0	0
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the L.A.	20	0	0	0
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. (including out-workers premises).	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	22	0	0	0

2. Cases in which defects found.

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Insepctor	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prosecution
Want of cleanliness	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) insufficient	0	0	0	0	0
(b) unsuitable	0	0	0	0	0
(c) not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences (not including offences relating to outwork)	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0

W A T E R

The water supply to the Town was obtained from two sources, namely Llandyfan Spring and the Llandeilo Rural District Council's supply.

The Llandyfan Spring is situated 5 miles from the Town at 480 ft. A.O.D. and 193 ft. above the highest point of the Town. The supply is derived from a spring in the Limestone stratum, with an estimated yield of 1.3 million gallons per day.

The supply from this source is conveyed by gravitation to the Town in 5" cast-iron pipes. The Llandyfan main is 67 years old.

The Llandyfan supply is chlorinated by a Wallace and Tiernan Plant at Derwydd.

Part of the Llandeilo Rural District is still supplied from the Llandyfan source, and part of the Urban District receives a supply from the Rural District main to which the Town mains are connected.

Routine checks are taken to determine the efficiency of the chlorination of the supply.

Discolouration of the Llandyfan source occurred again during the year, and water was obtained from the Llanelli and District Water Board for a short period. The discolouration of the water occurs after a prolonged period of heavy rain and results in minute particles of rock being scoured from places not normally reached by the water underground.

During the year the various water authorities in Carmarthenshire held a number of meetings to prepare plans for the setting up of a Carmarthenshire Provisional Management Unit in readiness for Reorganisation in 1974.

The water from Llandyfan source is regularly examined to ascertain its quality and a recent report is set out below:-

pH value	7.40
Colour (Hazen Units)	NIL
<u>P a r t s p e r m i l l i o n</u>	
Free and saline ammonia	0.01
Albuminoid ammonia	0.01
Nitrite nitrogen	NIL
Nitrate nitrogen	0.25
Oxygen consumed at 27°C from N/80 permanganate during 4 hours	0.08
Chlorides as Cl	14.0
Calculated as common salt	23.1
Total solids in solution	210.0
Line as CaO	98.5
Total alkalinity as CaCO ₃	165.0
Total hardness as CaCO ₃	165.0.
Appearance	Bright and clear
Lead content (Pb)	NIL
Copper (Cu)	NEGLIGABLE
Zinc (Zu)	NEGLIGABLE
Iron (Fe)	NEGLIGABLE

"This was an almost neutral, moderately hard water. Its organic condition was excellent and freedom from animal and vegetable pollution was denoted.

The balance of the water was such that it should not be significantly aggressive to metals. From a chemical point of view this was a satisfactory water for public supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewers of the Town are combined, taking both sewage and surface water. The sewers serve the whole town with the exception of 15 properties in Carnarthen Road and Nantyrhibo areas. The sewers are constructed in stoneware pipes and culverts, the treatment being carried out at the Joint Sewage Works at Ffairfach. Where properties have septic tanks, these tanks are emptied free of charge by the Local Authority.

Consideration was given to the sewerage of the Northern part of the Urban District, at present undeveloped, but, if provided with adequate sewers would allow for considerable expansion of the Town. Consultants were engaged to prepare a scheme but progress was halted because no information could be obtained about the line of the proposed Northern by-pass of the Town. This by-pass could have a limiting effect on any development of the area but information on the proposed line appears to be unobtainable from any source.

97 visits were made during the year for the purpose of testing drainage, investigating complaints etc.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection of refuse in the district operated satisfactorily and no serious problems were encountered. As I have mentioned in previous reports, the residents have completely accepted the plastic sack system, and I am sure now regard it as the "normal method" of refuse collection. However, with the impending local government reorganisation where five local authorities are involved it will be of interest to learn the method of refuse collection to be generally adopted. Only two of the authorities operate a sack system.

Trade refuse is collected once each week and a charge is made for this service.

Special arrangements are made for the collection of bulky items of house refuse, and as this service is free it undoubtedly helps to prevent the indiscriminate dumping of large items on vacant land and in ditches. Some members of the public, however, persist in indiscriminate dumping although it is widely known that a free collection service is provided.

Although the tip is now more secure than it has been in the past, unauthorised tipping still continues to a certain degree. The tip is still not operated in a controlled manner and it is hoped that this situation will be remedied with the advent of the new district council.

Flies were a nuisance during the warm weather, and were very difficult to control in spite of regular spraying. Properly controlled tipping is the only answer to nuisances from flies and fires but as I have mentioned in previous reports until reorganisation comes about it will not be possible to carry out any method other than crude tipping because of financial and manpower limitations.

24 visits were made during the year in connection with matters relating to refuse disposal.

PEST CONTROL.

The Council employs one of the workmen to carry out rodent control treatment as and when required. No charge is made in respect of the treatment of infested business premises.

The following are details of the work carried out:-

	<u>Non Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
Number of properties inspected following notification	23	-
Number of properties infested by rats	17	-
Number of properties infested by mice	6	-
Number of properties treated	23	-

A total of 84 visits were made in connection with treatment work.

The tip was again infested and was difficult to deal with because of the uncontrolled nature of the tip.

A treatment of the sewers in the Town was carried out for the Council by a Pest Control Company.

The tip was infested with flies on numerous occasions, and while a spraying treatment was carried out, the method of tipping made adequate insect control extremely difficult.

Two houses became infested with Spider Beetles, the first infestation by this insect experienced in the district. Eradication measures were commenced but had not been completed by the end of the year.

FOOD AND FOOD HYGIENE.

Although the district is very small, a considerable amount of catering is carried on at several establishments and the fact that no incidents of food poisoning were reported is very gratifying.

This does not mean that vigilance should be relaxed. There is no doubt that there should be as much concern shown by housewives regarding maintaining good hygiene practices in the domestic kitchen as there must be numerous instances of "upset stomachs" which are not reported but which could probably be food poisoning and which could occur at home.

The following types of food business were carried on in the district at 41 premises.

Sale of Ice Cream	15
Sale of Grocery and Provisions	13
Bakehouses	4
Sale of Greengrocery and Fruit	8
Fish and Chips	1
Licensed Premises	12
Hotels	6
Restaurants, Cafes etc.	5
Sale of Confectionery and Sweets	16
Canteens	1

Attention was again paid to mobile vehicles and informal action was taken to secure improvements in foodhandling methods.

16 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream and preserved meats etc.

The following food-stuffs were surrendered by the owners:-

Canned meats	<u>15 lbs.</u>
Total:	<u>15 lbs.</u>

HOUSING

STATISTICS

1. Number of new permanent houses erected during the year:-

(a) By Local Authority	NIL
(b) By other bodies or persons	NIL

2. Number of new permanent houses under construction during the year:-

(a) By Local Authority	NIL
(b) By other bodies or persons	NIL

3. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:-

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	26
(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	NIL

4. Remedy of Defects during the year without the service of Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	2
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5. Action Under Statutory Powers During The Year.

A. Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. | NIL |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices. | |
| (a) By owners | NIL |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | NIL |
| (c) Outstanding at 31st December 1971 | NIL |

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | NIL |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices: | |
| (a) By owners | NIL |
| (b) By occupiers | NIL |
| (c) By Local Authority in default of owners | NIL |
| (d) Outstanding at 31st December, 1971. | NIL |

C. Proceedings under Section 16 and 17 of the Housing Act 1957.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | NIL |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses undemolished in clearance area | NIL |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted from the owners. | NIL |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit. | NIL |

D. Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. | NIL |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. | NIL |

E. Housing Act, 1957 - Part IV:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | NIL |
| (b) Number of families dwelling therein | NIL |
| (c) Number of persons dwelling therein | NIL |
| (2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | NIL |
| (3) (a) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year | NIL |
| (b) Number of persons concerned in such cases | NIL |
| (4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps For the abatement of overcrowding | NIL |
| (5) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding Conditions. | NIL |

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

11 applications for Improvement Grants were received during the year and the work involved in 7 grants was completed.

83 visits were made to various premises in connection with grant application.

COUNCIL HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS.

Work commenced on a scheme to improve to modern standards twenty pre-war Council houses.

OFFICE, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The total number of premises registered under the Act is 46 and the number of persons employed in these premises was 225 comprising 107 males and 118 females.

Two general inspections were carried out during the year and 13 other inspections were made in connection with works being undertaken to remedy contraventions of the Act at various premises.

No notifications of accidents were received.

CARAVAN SITES.

There are two licensed Caravan Sites within the Urban area, one site being licensed for seven caravans and the other for one caravan. Both sites are residential sites.

The conditions of the licence were not complied with in respect of one site and the legal proceedings commenced in 1971 were heard during the year. The licensee was found guilty on 8 counts and fined a total of £80 with £20 costs. In addition the court revoked the site licence. Following the court hearing work commenced to bring the site up to the standard required.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928 AND 1936

Twelve licences were granted for the storage of petroleum spirit.

Two inspections were made to licenced premises during the year.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

1972 brought the usual number of Circulars, Official Reports, and Memoranda which, together with the extra documents of Reorganisation presented quite a task even to read every one.

As reorganisation draws nearer the impression is gained that the man in the street has really no idea of the effect there will be on his day to day problems. Last year I mentioned the ready access to the Local Authority Officer which in a small authority, the general public enjoy.

The Public Health Inspector by the very nature of his work involving daily contact with the public can do much to obviate the danger of remoteness which reorganisation will surely bring.

